



TERRY E. BRANSTAD  
GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS  
LT. GOVERNOR

July 25, 2013

The Honorable Louis A. Lavorato  
Former Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court  
809 Valley West Drive  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

Dear Chief Justice Lavorato,

You are known within the legal community for your integrity, legal acumen and impartial judgment. I believe the people of Iowa would benefit from your independent review of a matter of public interest.

On the afternoon of April 26, 2013, Larry Hedlund, a supervisor with the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), reported a speeding vehicle on Highway 20. A State Trooper located the vehicle and determined it was travelling at 84 mph in a 65 mph zone. I was a passenger in the vehicle. An unrelated complaint was filed against Mr. Hedlund prior to the afternoon of April 26<sup>th</sup>. The Professional Standards Bureau (Internal Affairs) investigated the complaint against Mr. Hedlund. On July 17, 2013, the Internal Affairs investigation concluded and the Department of Public Safety terminated Mr. Hedlund.

I believe unfounded accusations of retaliation have been made against me. All of the requested information that can be released pursuant to our Open Records law has been released to the public. Iowa law prohibits me from providing the public full access to all of information related to the complaint filed against Mr. Hedlund, including the investigative file. This complaint led to his eventual termination by the department.

I am committed to transparency. Iowa law prevents all Iowans from having all of the facts and evidence surrounding Mr. Hedlund's termination; therefore, I ask you to fully review the Internal Affairs investigation and provide the public with your own independent conclusion as to whether Mr. Hedlund's termination was in any way related to retaliation for reporting my vehicle for speeding on April 26, 2013. I have asked that the Department of Public Safety, and all state employees, fully cooperate with you. I ask that they provide you all documents you request. It is my understanding that the Attorney General's office has prepared a Non-Disclosure Agreement to ensure compliance with all laws regarding confidentiality and that you are bound by the same confidentiality obligation as the State. You have full discretion to interview anyone you choose to interview on a voluntary basis. It is important to me that you have complete autonomy and full authority over your independent review and how you choose to conduct it. Your independent conclusion will be made available to the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terry E. Branstad", is written over a horizontal line.

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor